Application Serial No.: 09/506,377 Attorney Docket No.: 04329.2231

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 6 and ends on line 10 of page 23 with the following paragraph:

a1

In the sensor unit 20, upon reception of the ciphertext R[D], the decryption section 23 decrypts the cipertext R[D] with the cryptographic key R in the decryption key storage section 22, and supplies the obtained biological data D to the collation section 25 (step ST4).

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 2 and ends on line 4 of page 30 with the following paragraph:

av

This operation is performed in the same manner as described above up to the decryption processing in steps ST1 through ST4. In other words, steps ST1, ST2, ST3', and ST4 of FIG 5 may be performed in a manner similar to steps ST1, ST2, ST3, and ST4 of FIG. 2.

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